

Claims Amendments and Claims Listing:

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~conversion for method for~~ ~~converting a standard non-self-tailing~~ sailboat winch or capstan having a rope drum rotatable on a stationary center stem, to provide self-tailing capability on the winch or capstan, comprising:

~~a rope crown or attaching a rope jaw with means for~~ attachment to an upper part of the rope drum of the standard winch to rotate along with the rope drum and to prevent relative rotation on the rope drum, the rope jaw having an annular rope-receiving groove positioned generally concentrically with the winch, and

~~securing a feeder arm with means for securing the feeder arm~~ to the stationary center stem of the standard winch, the feeder arm having a line guide to be positioned stationary relative to the rope drum and outwardly from the rope drum to feed a rope out of a coil on the rope drum, over the line guide of the feeder arm and into the rope-receiving groove of the rope jaw.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~winch conversion method~~ of claim 1, wherein ~~the means for attachment of the rope jaw~~ ~~comprises means for attaching the rope jaw~~ is attached to the top of the winch rope drum.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The winch conversion of claim 1,~~  
~~wherein A conversion for a standard non-self-tailing sailboat~~  
~~winch or capstan having a rope drum rotatable on a stationary~~  
~~center stem, to provide self-tailing capability on the winch or~~  
~~capstan, comprising:~~

a rope crown or rope jaw with means for attachment to an upper part of the rope drum of the standard winch to rotate along with the rope drum and to prevent relative rotation on the rope drum, the rope jaw having an annular rope-receiving groove positioned generally concentrically with the winch, the means for attachment of the rope jaw comprisesing means for attaching the rope jaw onto the winch rope drum just below a drum crown of the rope drum, and

a feeder arm with means for securing the feeder arm to the stationary center stem of the standard winch, the feeder arm having a line guide to be positioned stationary relative to the rope drum and outwardly from the rope drum to feed a rope out of a coil on the rope drum, over the line guide of the feeder arm and into the rope-receiving groove of the rope jaw.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The winch conversion of claim 2,~~  
~~wherein A conversion for a standard non-self-tailing sailboat~~

winch or capstan having a rope drum rotatable on a stationary center stem, to provide self-tailing capability on the winch or capstan, comprising:

a rope crown or rope jaw with means for attachment to the top of the rope drum of the standard winch to rotate along with the rope drum and to prevent relative rotation on the rope drum, the rope jaw having an annular rope-receiving groove positioned generally concentrically with the winch, the means for attaching the rope jaw to the top of the winch rope drum comprising ~~ing~~ an annular flange depending downwardly from a bottom side of the rope jaw over the outer edge of a drum crown of the standard winch, the depending flange having an internal thread, and a two-piece ring which is assembled under the drum crown and having external threads positioned to engage with internal threads of a means for attachment to the depending flange, the rope jaw being screwed onto the two-piece ring to firmly secure the rope jaw in position on top of the drum crown, and

a feeder arm with means for securing the feeder arm to the stationary center stem of the standard winch, the feeder arm having a line guide to be positioned stationary relative to the rope drum and outwardly from the rope drum to feed a rope out of a coil on the rope drum, over the line guide of the feeder arm and into the rope-receiving groove of the rope jaw.

6. (Original) The winch conversion of claim 5, further including a friction ring positioned between the two-piece ring and the lower surface of the drum crown to prevent slippage.

7. (Original) The winch conversion of claim 5, wherein the external and internal threads are reverse threads.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (New) The winch conversion of claim 5, wherein the means for attachment to the depending flange comprises an internal thread on the depending flange, and external threads on the two-piece ring positioned to engage with the internal threads of the depending flange, so that the rope jaw is screwed onto the two-piece ring.

10. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the rope jaw is attached onto the winch rope drum just below a drum crown of the rope drum.